

### **REMARKS**

This paper is responsive to any paper(s) indicated above, and is responsive in any other manner indicated below.

### **PENDING CLAIMS**

Claims 1-9 were pending, under consideration and subjected to examination in the Office Action. Appropriate claims have been amended, canceled and/or added (without prejudice or disclaimer) in order to adjust a clarity and/or focus of Applicant's claimed invention. Such changes are unrelated to any prior art or scope adjustment and are simply cancellation of ones of any disputed claim(s) (without prejudice or disclaimer) to obtain a patent (without prejudice or disclaimer) on any allowable claim(s) as quickly as possible. Any disputed claim(s) may be pursued within a continuing application. At entry of this paper, Claims 1 and 5-9 will be pending for further consideration and examination in the application.

### **ALLOWED CLAIMS**

Claim 1 has been allowed in the application, as indicated within the "Allowable Subject Matter" section on page 4 of the Office Action. Applicant and the undersigned respectfully thank the Examiner for such indication of allowable subject matter.

### **REWRITTEN ALLOWABLE CLAIMS**

Claims 7-9 have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten, as indicated within the "Allowable Subject Matter" section on page 4 of the Office Action, and at least appropriate base ones of such claims have been so rewritten. Applicant and the undersigned respectfully thank the Examiner for such indication of allowable subject matter.

### **ALLOWABLE CLAIMS DUE TO CHANGE IN DEPENDENCY**

Unrelated to any prior art rejections (e.g., to clarify and/or refocus Applicant's claims), Claims 5-6 have been amended to depend from ones of the above-discussed allowable claims. Owing to dependency from allowable claims, such claims should likewise be allowable over the prior art of record, and any prior art rejections regarding such claims have become obsolete at this time. Accordingly, reconsideration and express written allowance of such claims are respectfully requested.

### **REJECTION UNDER 35 USC '103 - TRAVERSED/OBVIATED**

The 35 USC '103 rejection of claims 2-6 as being unpatentable over US 2001/0020992 is respectfully traversed. However, such rejections have been

rendered obsolete by the present dependency-amending and/or cancellation (without prejudice or disclaimer) of Applicant's claims, and accordingly, traversal arguments are not appropriate at this time. Discussions/arguments concerning such rejection(s), claims and/or reference are left for the future if/when appropriate.

As a result of all of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the '103 rejections, and express written allowance of all of the rejected claims, are respectfully requested.

#### **ALL CLAIMS IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE**

In view of the fact that all prior art rejected claims have now been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and in view of the fact that all remaining claims have either been already allowed or depend from allowed claims, it is respectfully submitted that all presently pending claims are now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance with respect to the present application is respectfully requested.

#### **EXAMINER INVITED TO TELEPHONE**

The Examiner is herein invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys at the local Washington, D.C. area telephone number of 703/312-6600 for discussing any Examiner's Amendments or other suggested actions for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

### **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

It is respectfully submitted that any and all claim amendments and/or cancellations submitted within this paper and throughout prosecution of the present application are without prejudice or disclaimer. That is, any above statements, or any present amendment or cancellation of claims (all made without prejudice or disclaimer), should not be taken as an indication or admission that any objection/rejection was valid, or as a disclaimer of any scope or subject matter. Applicant respectfully reserves all rights to file subsequent related application(s) (including reissue applications) directed to any/all previously claimed limitations/features which have been subsequently amended or cancelled, or to any/all limitations/features not yet claimed, i.e., Applicant continues (indefinitely) to maintain no intention or desire to dedicate or surrender any limitations/features of subject matter of the present application to the public.

### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims listed above as presently being under consideration in the application are now in condition for allowance.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (501.43246X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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